## VI. *Part of two Letters concerning a Method of procuring the Small Pox, used in* South Wales. *From* Perrot Williams, *M. D. Physician at* Haverford West, *to Dr.* Samuel Brady, *Physician to the Garrison at* Portsmouth.

HOwever new the Method of communicating the Small Pox may appear in this Kingdom; yet I am to acquaint you, that it has been commonly practised by the Inhabitants of this Part of *Wales* (*Pembrokeshire*) time out of mind, though by another Name, *viz.* that of buying the Disease, as I have been long ago acquainted by several, who procured the Distemper by that means. There is a married Woman in the Neighbourhood of this Place, who practised it on her Daughter, about a Year and a half ago, by which Means she had the Small Pox favourably, and is now in perfect Health, notwithstanding she has ever since, without Reserve, conversed with such as have had that Distemper this last Summer.

In order to procure the Distemper to themselves, they either rub the Matter taken from the Pustules when ripe, on several Parts of the Skin of the Arms, *&c.* or prick those Parts with Pins, or the like, first infected with the same Matter. And notwithstanding they omit the necessary Evacuations, such as Purging, *&c.* yet, as I am inform'd, they generally come off well enough; and what's remarkable, I cannot hear of one Instance of their having the Small Pox a second time.



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A Learned and very Ingenious Gentleman of this Country told me not long ſince, that above twenty Years ago, when at School, he and ſeveral of his Schoolfellows, (how many I don't exactly remember) infected themſelves at the ſame time, from the ſame Perſon, and that not one of them miſcarry'd, though he had more of the Small Pox than he deſign'd. I am ſatisfy'd he will readily give a more particular Relation of this Affair, if deſired. I am ſorry he happens at preſent to be at a conſiderable Diſtance from this Town, otherwiſe I would have been more exact in this Account.

*Haverford Weſt,*
*Sept.* 28. 1722.

*Perrot Williams.*

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I Should not have ſo long omitted the Return of my Thanks, for the Favour of yours of *Oct.* 15. but that I hitherto waited an Opportunity to ſpeak with the Gentleman, whom I mention'd in my laſt. His Name is *George Owen*, a Counſellor at Law, eldeſt Son to Dr. *Owen*, formerly Archdeacon in the Dioceſe of St. *David*'s. He ſolemnly declares, that having, when at School, as I formerly ſaid, rubb'd the Skin off his Left Hand, where the Scar is now very viſible, with the back Edge of his Penknife, till the Blood began to appear, he apply'd the variolous Mat-

ter to that part; which by Degrees growing inflam'd, about a Week afterwards he fell into the Small Pox; and that he has ſince frequently converſed with ſuch as were ſick of that Diſtemper. He ſays alſo five or ſix more at leaſt of his Schoolfellows made the like Experiment on themſelves, at the ſame time, with the like Succeſs.

I have ſince talk'd with ſeveral more, who made the like Experiments on themſelves, ſome twenty, ſome ſixteen, *&c.* Years ago: who all poſitively affirm, they never had the Small Pox a ſecond time.

*Haverford Weſt,*
*Nov.* 23. 1722.

*Perrot Williams.*

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VII. *Part of a Letter from the ſame Learned and Ingenious Gentleman, upon the ſame Subject, to Dr.* Jurin, *R. S. Secret.*

THE Buſineſs of my Profeſſion obliging me to go into the Country, as ſoon as I had the Favour of yours of *Jan.* 22. prevented my returning an Anſwer ſooner to the Queries you are pleas'd to propoſe.

I have little to add to what I have already mention'd to Dr. *Brady*, concerning the manner of communicating the Small Pox, more than that Mr. *Owen* was about fifteen Years of Age, when he made the Experiment on himſelf, and that he queſtionleſs had the genuine Small Pox; the Signs of 'em on his Face,